

RCE  
Mail Stop RCE**REQUEST FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000 provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application Number: 09/981,790

Filing Date: October 19, 2001

First Named Inventor: Todd J. MORTIER et al.

Group Art Unit: 3738

Examiner: David Willse

Attorney Docket Number: 7528.0003-01

Attorney Customer Number: 22,852

REQUEST FOR RCE  
RECEIVED  
DEC 29 2003  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**Note:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) instead of a RCE to be eligible for patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See "Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice," Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (March 20, 2000). Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (April 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

**1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114:** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, application must request non-entry of such amendment.

- a. ☒ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
- i. ☒ Consider the arguments in the Amendment After Final previously filed on October 28, 2003.
- ii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ Enclosed:
- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement
- iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-mentioned application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of number months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required.)
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Fees**

- a. ☒ The filing fee is calculated as follows:
- i. ☒ \$385.00 RCE fee (small entity) required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) 12/23/2003 SZEWDIE1 00000068 09981790  
01 FC:2801 385.00 DP
- ii. ☒ Petition for extension of time for (Two (2) Months) \$210.00
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$595.00 to cover RCE fee and extension of time fee is enclosed.
- c. ☒ The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies in the filing fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

**Signature of Applicant, Attorney, or Agent Required**

Name: Susanne T. Jones

Reg. No.: 44,472

Signature: *Susanne T. Jones*

Date: 12/22/03

**Certificate of Mailing or Transmission**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, MAIL STOP RCE, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: [Date]

Name: [Text]

Signature:

Date: